

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Philip Lane on September 15, 2008

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 44, line 1 delete "37" and insert --43--.

In claim 45, line 1 delete "37" and insert --43--.

In claim 46, line 1 delete "37" and insert --43 --.

In claim 47, line 1 delete "37" and insert --43--.

In the specification, on page 1, delete lines 1-5 and insert the following:

---This application is a continuation of U.S. Application Number 10/068,074 filed February 5, 2002, now U.S. Patent 6,869,455, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Number 09/976,425 filed October 12, 2001, now U.S. Patent 6,860,910.---

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the claims are allowable because the prior art fails to teach or suggest the claimed abrasive carbon foam wherein a carbide is reactively bonded to the open-cell carbon foam.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cephia D. Toomer whose telephone number is 571-272-1126. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Caldarola can be reached on 571-272-1444. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Cephia D. Toomer/
Primary Examiner
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